

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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REPENT YE!

By Gipsy Smith

"Jesus came into Galilee, preaching . . . saying, repent ye."
—Mark 1:14,15.

The Bible, especially the New Testament, is the handbook of repentance. It commands it, it urges it, enforces it, repeats it, drives it in everywhere. Over sixty times repentance is enforced. The great doctrine of repentance occupies a very prominent place in the teaching of Jesus Christ and His apostles. All the Epistles were written to show men how to do it, because there is no such thing as vital communion, fellowship with God, without it.

And I want to speak plainly about Bible repentance, and I pray God to help me, for I have not anything pleasant to say. It is far easier to congratulate than it is to exhort. My business is not to speak smooth things, but to say some things that you may resist fight, get angry with; and you may get angry with me for saying them, but they are here, and it is my business to say, "Thus saith the Lord." There is no intelligent conversion without an intelligent understanding of these words. May the Holy Spirit breathe light upon these truths, and help us to see them! For it is my business to make you see what God means when He says, "Repent ye."

I am afraid that in our zeal to get people into the kingdom or the church we have lowered the standard. These words meant far more when they were uttered than they do today with most people. I am afraid the familiar way with which we use them and the constant contact with them and with the daily handling of them, we have somehow allowed their edge to be worn off. They do not mean as much to us. The depth, the



Gipsy Smith

breadth, the height, the length of these mighty utterances do not search us and illuminate and startle, and thrill and overwhelm as they used to. But they do mean as much.

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"What Does the Bible Say About Mercy Death?"

By Evangelist James V. Lamb
Eldon, Missouri

The seven-thirty bus moved slowly away from the curb after a tall, serious-looking man had boarded. Bill dropped his fare in the box and started down the narrow aisle looking for a seat.

"Hello, Bill," a friendly voice called. Bill turned to see his neighbor John who had gotten on at the bus stop before him.

"Sit down, Bill," John urged, as Bill came to his seat.

"Hello, fellow," Bill said in his friendly way. "Glad to see you. You're just the one I want to see. What do you know about this 'mercy-killing' business?"

"Well, I don't know much about it myself, but I've been reading about the trial of Dr. Sander up in New Hampshire and the trial of the young woman who shot

her father who was dying of cancer. You remember each was cleared?"

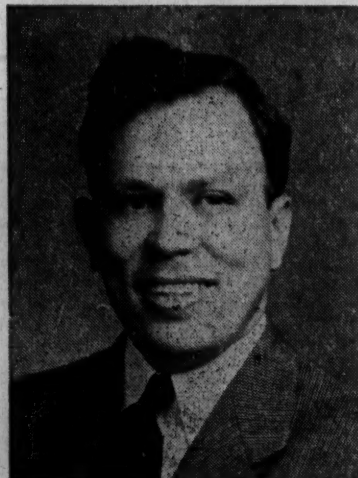
"That's right, John, they were cleared. But what got me all mixed up were those Protestant ministers and rabbis—379 of them, I believe who signed a petition awhile back to legalize 'mercy killing.'" Bill continued, "Then, too, this organization called 'The Euthanasia Society of America' is fighting hard to legalize mercy killing. Can you help me out, John? What does the Bible say about it?"

"I was asking the same questions, Bill, so I went to my pastor. He sure is a fine man of God. I asked him about the whole question of 'mercy killing,' even about those preachers who petitioned the New York State Legislature. He said those preachers and rabbis were liberal, modernistic men who didn't believe the Bible and didn't care what it said. My pastor said 'mercy killing' was murder according to the Bible. He said also that outstanding Christian leaders, evangelists, and pastors who believe the Bible—conservative men—are all against 'mercy killing'."

"I'm against 'mercy killing' too, John. I felt it was murder."

"Well, next stop is mine. Come

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James V. Lamb

The "Failures" of Jesus

By Evangelist Hyman J. Appelmann

"Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not: Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you. And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee."—Matt. 11:20-24.

"And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence. And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, inasmuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things? And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house. And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief."—Matt. 13:53-58.

Your attention is directed to the fifty-eighth verse of the thirteenth chapter of the Gospel According to St. Matthew:

"And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief."

There is nobody in the world who has any judgment, any good sense, who wants to tell of his or her failures. No matter how apathetic we may be, such a course is always discouraging, disappointing, disheartening. It is good for us to know, however, that there were times in the life of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ when even He apparently failed. Perhaps it is because misery loves company. Personally, I have failed so many times in my own life that I like to read about the times in the life and experience of our Master when He, too,

seemed to be tossing His words against stone walls as far as results were concerned.

Of course you must remember that it all depends on what you mean by failure, and also what you mean by success. You know there is a shibboleth going the rounds today that the Gospel was intended to straighten out the world, that the Gospel was intended to stop wars, that the Gospel was intended to solve social questions, that the Gospel was sent into the world to help the capitalist get right with the laboring man and the laboring man with the capitalist. If that is the purpose of the Gospel, then I say to you as unqualifiedly as the beat of my hand on this pulpit, that the Gospel has been an al-

most total failure.

On the other hand, if you take the Word of God that the Gospel was intended to call out a people for the Lord, then, bless the Lord, it certainly has been a great success. There have been millions upon untold millions who have come to claim the Lord Jesus Christ in the pardon of their sins. Nevertheless, the fact still remains, whether the sound of it rings clear in your hearts or not, whether you like the taste of it on your souls or not, that time and time again Jesus Christ, the Son of God, seemed to preach, seemed to work without results.

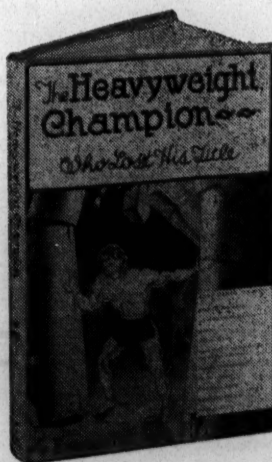
Take some of these instances. There is the case of this man Judas Iscariot. For three years perhaps longer for all we know, he had been associated with the Son of God. He was one of the apostolic band. He knew the in-

(Continued on page 5)



Hyman Appelmann

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FREE, this \$1.50 book of eleven sermons by Evangelist Bill Rice, clothbound, with every \$5 retail order during letter month. Sword of the Lord Publishers, 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

The Editor's Notes

See page 2

WANTED: Your Letter

Letter Month is half gone! Have you sent yours? Free gift is ready for all who write.

By Charles T. Lampman, Managing Editor

Letters are pouring into Sword of the Lord offices from all over the world. How thrilling it is to see each new delivery as it comes in. And how happy it makes us to learn how God is using the efforts of Sword of the Lord publications.

Recently we asked Dr. Rice the purpose behind Letter Month. His reply was so interesting that we desire to pass it on to you. He said:

"One reason for Letter Month is that we want to know what results God is giving to our preaching and teaching in the lives of readers."

"Another reason," continued Dr. Rice, "is that we want suggestions from our readers about ways to improve the Sword and make it a greater blessing. If our friends have an honest constructive criticism, we want it. It is good for us to know what our readers like and enjoy."

Another Reason Given

"Still another reason for Letter Month," Dr. Rice continued, "is that we want God to be glorified in The Sword of the Lord more than ever before. Then, too, our readers help us greatly to expand and improve the work each time they send in subscriptions or order books published by the Sword of the Lord Publishers."

To Help You Write

Here's the story on Letter Month. Everyone who writes during Letter Month is entitled to: Free Revival Chorus book; Credit of \$2.00 for each letter published;

Free premium with each \$1.00 order;
Free premium with each \$5.00 order.

Each week during Letter Month the editors will select a few of the most interesting letters from readers to be published in future issues of the Sword. The writers of letters so used will receive a valuable \$2.00 credit slip. This credit slip may be used just like cash to purchase any Sword of the Lord Publication you desire, including a year's subscription to The Sword of the Lord, for yourself or a friend.

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"What Does the Bible Say About Mercy Death?"

(Continued from page 1)

and hear our preacher Sunday, Bill. So long."

"Thanks John; I'll sure do that." Real discussions, like this imaginary one between Bill and John, are going on all over our nation on the question of "mercy death." The trials are over, but the issue is still before us. Organizations and groups are working hard to legalize "mercy death." What does the Bible say about it? What is the attitude of the medical profession and society in general? Why should Christians be against euthanasia?

In order to answer these questions, let us begin by letting the Bible speak concerning murder.

Bible Against Mercy Killing Because It Is Murder

God's Word condemns murder in all forms. Practically all murders are rationalized in the mind of the murderer by inventing some excuse to justify the act in his own mind. "Mercy killing" is murder, no matter how you rationalize it. True, the person in pain may give consent, and permission be granted and no malice involved; but whether permission is given or not, whether malice is in it or not, it is murder according to the Bible.

The Scriptures say, "And he that killeth ANY man shall surely be put to death" (Lev. 24:17).

Murder with hatred is forbidden in Numbers 35:20-21. Premeditated murder is condemned in Deuteronomy 19:11-13. Killing by strategy and deceit is forbidden in Exodus 21:14. Murder is forbidden in all of these Scripture passages, with different motives given for the murder in each case; but notice in the passage from Leviticus, God includes and covers any and every excuse one might give for committing murder. The Bible says, "And he that killeth ANY man shall surely be put to death" (Lev. 24:17). The sixth commandment is still the same, "Thou shalt do no murder" (Exod. 20:13).

A different reason for murder doesn't change the fact that it is murder. One reason for murder is no more justified than the other. He who kills any man for any reason is guilty. When one is put to death by an individual, any individual, and not by the authority of the government, it is murder.

If a doctor has the right to say when a life is useless, then an offended citizen might have a right to say when his enemy morally deserves to die. There is no essential difference.

The sanctity of human life is founded on the fact that man was made in the image of God; for the Bible says, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man" (Gen. 9:6).

So serious is murder, and "mercy death" is murder, that God says, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed . . ." (Gen. 9:6a).

The authority for capital punishment is given to the government or state, but not to individuals, and then only when the defendant has committed a crime punishable by death.

In the case of "mercy killing" no crime has been committed by the person being put to death. Is pain a crime? How can an individual or group of individuals put a sick person to death who has not committed a crime punishable by death, and it not be murder? They can't do it! It is murder.

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

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der to perform euthanasia.

In the Old Testament we find a striking story that in some ways could be classed as a "mercy death" and it was condemned as a sin.

You will recall the battle with the Philistines when Saul the king was wounded. Saul was mortally wounded and begged his armourbearer to thrust him through, but he would not. The armourbearer killed himself instead. A young Amalekite soldier was attracted by Saul's cries and obeyed his plea and put him to death. Later, the young man told David how he had found Saul in pain and dying, and how Saul had begged him to end his suffering. The Bible account reads:

"So I stood upon him, and slew him, because I was sure that he could not live after that he was fallen: and I took the crown that was upon his head, and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them hither unto my lord. Then David took hold on his clothes, and rent them; and likewise all the men that were with him: And David said unto him, How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine hand to destroy the Lord's anointed? And David called one of the young men, and said, Go near, and fall upon him. And he smote him that he died. And David said unto him, Thy blood be upon thy head; for thy mouth hath testified against thee, saying, I have slain the Lord's anointed" (II Sam. 1:10, 11; 14-16).

Even though Saul was in pain and dying, the young man disobeyed God and committed murder. David had the young man put to death for his "mercy killing" of Saul, the Lord's anointed.

God alone is sovereign, having power over life and death. Capital punishment does not violate God's sovereignty, but honors it by obeying His Word.

We, as individuals are not to take things into our own hands, God alone can give life. Only God or God's authorized agency, the government, has the right to put to death. (Rom. 3:1-6). We know from the Scripture that God says, "Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the Lord hath wrought this? In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind" (Job 12:9, 10).

God has a purpose in sickness and pain. Paul had a "thorn in the flesh" for years and asked God three times to remove it. God had a purpose in "the thorn," and Paul was made "strong" by his "weakness." Numbers of people have given their brightest testimony in time of sickness and death. Countless souls have been saved during a lingering illness. I have known of entire families who have accepted Christ as Saviour, or have come back to Christ because of a mother's testimony or of other loved ones witnessing during a long illness. In many cases, to administer "mercy death" would cause souls not to be saved who would have been influenced by the dying person's testimony. Euthanasia denies that God has a purpose in our lives. Then, too, many times the best doctors are wrong. They often have pronounced a case hopeless and said the sick one would die soon, but the person recovered by a miracle from God.

Hezekiah was healed after God had first said he was to die. Hezekiah prayed and wept and God heard his prayer and saw his tears and prolonged his life fifteen years. Suppose Hezekiah had asked for "mercy death," had it been in use then. He would have missed fifteen years of useful living.

I imagine the woman with the
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THE EDITOR'S NOTES

We are in the midst of a blessed union revival campaign in Presque Isle, Maine. I suppose that Presque Isle has between five thousand and ten thousand population, but churches in nearby towns and communities are heartily cooperating. Crowds are large, and many are being saved.

Services are held in the Cunningham Gymnasium, formerly called the high school auditorium, before the new high school was opened this school year. Mrs. Rice is having a wonderful time at the book table and doing personal soul winning in the services, besides keeping me comfortable and cooking in our little apartment. My secretary, Miss Viola, keeps hard at work at the mail, but is used of God to win many people in the services, too.

2,000 Jammed in Auditorium of 1,500 Capacity

Last night, Monday night, the auditorium was packed far beyond comfort. Every seat was filled, children sat all over the stage, people stood and sat in the wings and on the stairs, and scores of people stood blocking aisles and entrances throughout the entire service. In an auditorium which is supposed to seat about 1,500, there were 1,980 people counted in various Sunday school delegations, besides a few others not representing particular Sunday schools. So over 2,000 people jammed the auditorium planned to seat 1,500. The distressed fire marshal came and saw the crowd, warned us straitly, and plans tonight to have a fireman at each door to shut the doors when the building reaches capacity!

As an indication of the enthusiastic cooperation of the churches, out of twenty-three Sunday schools represented last night, all but two of them had more than half of their total enrollment present more people in their delegations than their entire Sunday school enrollments. The crowds, the interest, the blessing have been tremendous, praise the Lord!

300 Decisions First Nine Days

Last night seventy people came forward to take my hand in open profession of faith in Jesus Christ. A few of these were backsliders coming to repent of their backsliding and start anew to live for God, but most of them were outright conversions. One man was a confessed drunkard. There was deep concern and a good many were in tears. Every person then went to an inquiry room and was

SERMONS BY JOHN L. BRAY

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2. Jesus or Barabbas?
3. The Comfort of Heaven.
4. Hell—God's Penitentiary for Sinners.
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9. Why Should We Win Souls?
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These 16 sermons are printed in ten books and booklets. Send just \$1.00 for the complete set to: Evangelist John L. Bray, 1044 La Rue St., So. Jacksonville 7, Florida. (Mention this ad.)

Repent Ye

(Continued from page 1)

If we have not eyes to see and ears to hear, if by long contamination with evil, and soothing the conscience with opiates from Hell, if crying, "Peace," where there is no peace has brought a stupor upon us, that is our responsibility, not God's or His Word's. God means as much by these words today when He says, "Repent ye," as He did when they were first uttered. I am afraid we have brought them down, we have lowered them, we have pulled them from their heights down to the low levels of our own poor experiences. But that is not the way to climb with measured step the hills of light, and walk in unbroken fellowship with God.

I am afraid that in our zeal to get people into what we call the church we have been more anxious about heads than hearts. In order to capture, we have compromised and lost. We have been more concerned about filling our church registers than we have about the kingdom. We have not sufficiently emphasized the greatness of coming to Christ, and we have said, "It is only a step." Who told you so? Only a step to Jesus? It is not true. It is not gospel. Only a step to Jesus? Then it is a very big step. We have made it a very little thing, and we have multitudes of people joining the churches. It is child's play. It used not to be. When I came to Christ I came under the old Act. It was a conflict, it was a

(Continued on page 4)

Mr. Albert Lane, Remarkable Musician, Joins Evangelistic Party

We are glad to announce to praying friends that Mr. Albert A. Lane, richly gifted musician, now pianist in the Presque Isle union campaign, is joining my evangelistic party permanently, beginning with the union campaign at Clarksburg, West Virginia, April 30. With me will also be Rev. and Mrs. Warren Steward, song leader and pianist-secretary. More about these fine Christian workers later.

I Humbly Beg Your Prayers

The campaign at Presque Isle, Maine, closes April 2. Monday we begin at Grand Manan, the island in the Bay of Fundy, off the coast where Maine and New Brunswick meet. Then I go for about the twelfth annual week with the Evansville Rescue Mission. A heavy, heavy year of work is ahead. With all my heart I beg you to remember to pray; pray for us as we edit THE SWORD OF THE LORD, as we direct the Sword of the Lord Foundation, head its book publishing, book club, free literature fund, etc. And I beg you pray above all that the mighty power of God may be upon me in revivals. Many calls are coming. As far as possible, I am saving myself for union campaigns. I lean hard on the prayers of you who love God and believe in revival.

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From the Sword Mailbag

Letters from people in all walks of life prove that God is blessing the ministry of The Sword of the Lord.

By Charles T. Lampman, Managing Editor

We've selected a few letters from mail received recently. We'd like to share them with you because of the blessing and inspiration they provide. The writer of each letter has received a credit slip good for \$2.00 worth of anything sold by Sword of the Lord Publishers. From week to week other Letter Month letters will be printed. Write your letter today, you may earn a credit slip.

Missionaries Enjoy Sword

These letters indicate that God is using Evangelist John R. Rice even on foreign missionary fields.

From Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Albert Ludwig writes:

"My wife and I want to thank you for *The Sword of the Lord*. A friend sent it to us for a year. It has been such a blessing. We are missionaries here. The only messages we hear are the ones we give. It makes us feel we have been to a service at home to read aloud the blessed truths in the paper.

"As we read each piece we pray for the author to be God-led and used. Mail is slow to us but the messages given are perfect for all times. Our hearts thrill to know so many ministers are being true teachers of God's Word.

"My sister sent us the book on 'Marriage, Courtship and Children.' It is a great blessing to us. My spiritual mouth waters to read all the books you tell us of. Our 6 year old daughter wanted the Sugar Creek Gang Series for Christmas. We couldn't get it so she is saving pennies to buy one book at a time."

Missionary Charles E. Mason, writing from South Africa says:

"Thank you so much for sending me the *Sword of the Lord*. It

is very helpful to have these evangelistic messages and they keep us primed for the work in the mountains and bush.

"The book on 'Prayer—Asking and Receiving' which you gave me at Pontiac, while we were home on furlough, has been a great help and we have gone through it many times. It is now loaned to another missionary."

Sword Books Win Souls

Literally scores of letters tell how God is using and blessing the books and pamphlets produced by the Sword of the Lord Publishers. Here are a few picked at random from a well-filled folder.

"Have just been reading your book on 'Prayer—Asking and Receiving,' the second time and cannot refrain from dropping a note to thank you and express my gratitude to God for it.

"God is leading us in a 'school of prayer' here and we are learning to pray by sitting at His feet.

"Your book is a great help—so sound, so biblical, so fresh, so down-to-earth, so completely 'of the Spirit.'"

"God's richest and best on your ministry."

Richard C. Halverson
Hollywood Presbyterian Church
Hollywood, California

"Just a note to let you know that again a soul has been saved by reading your books.

"Just a few weeks ago a young man, Mr. Junior Brown, was saved and his wife came to me and said that she attributed his salvation to reading the books of Dr. Rice, which we had given them to read.

"We truly praise the Lord for men like you, Dr. Rice, who are firm on their teaching. God bless your ministry is our prayer."

Mrs. R. K. Yoder
Sterling, Kansas

"I do not know to whom I am indebted for the book 'Prayer—Asking and Receiving' but I am truly grateful for it! It is, and has been, a great blessing to my soul.

"Thanks also for the *Sword of the Lord* that has been coming for some time. Like so many of God's busy people I hadn't or

With the Evangelists

Reports From America's Outstanding Soul Winners

By the Editors

As this is being written Evangelist John R. Rice is engaged in meetings in Presque Isle, Maine. He reports that God is blessing his efforts and souls are being saved and restored to fellowship.

In a recent letter he reported:

"Wonderful meeting here. Children's meeting at 10:00 o'clock packed the Union Baptist Church to running over, about 500 or 525. They were invited from nine years old and up, and we had children saved up to fifteen years old—more than 107. After 107 record cards were counted, there was still one group of six, eight, or ten whose cards we had not received. Last night there were an even forty professions of faith in the public service."

A later report said:

"Thank God we are having a great breaking out of revival. Last night there were eighteen who came forward in public profession of faith. Three of these, possibly four, came as backsliders. The rest were first-time decisions, from fourteen to perhaps fifty-five years of age. One other, we know, claimed Christ after the service, and I think, perhaps, a second one. The night before we had a similar service and another night we had seven or eight professions. And besides that, we are having Christians making new dedications to Christ, people starting the family altar, people quitting tobacco, people starting out to win souls. It is a real revival, praise God! I hope that hundreds will be saved before it is done."

John L. Bray Re-Enters Full-Time Evangelism

From 1943 to 1946 John L. Bray was active in full-time revival work. Then he accepted the pastorate of the Raiford Baptist Church, Raiford, Florida, while he attended John B. Stetson University. Now he feels led of God to resign the pastorate and re-enter full-time revival work.

We are glad to recommend this young man. He is sound in the faith, an attractive speaker, has an earnest and zealous style, and is widely commended by those who know him. He has written a good

many tracts and booklets which are widely scattered. We are glad to commend him to those who may need his services in revival. Address: Evangelist John L. Bray, 1044 La Rue Street, South Jacksonville 7, Florida.

J. Oscar Wells Leads Revival at Stanton, Mich.

The following report came to us from Albert F. Sweetland, pastor of First Baptist Church, Stanton, Michigan. The pastor wrote:

"I would like to report to your good paper the revival we have just experienced here with Brother J. Oscar Wells as the evangelist. Never in the history of this church has there been such a spirit-led revival, God was manifest in mighty power, the members were revived and souls were saved. Thirty-seven professions of faith. 22 of this number being adults, the remainder being teen-agers. There were 3 restorations and besides these, 3 requests for membership. This taking place in a little city of about 1000, surely is something to praise God for.

"The meetings were conducted in a way that brought honor to the Lord, joke telling was conspicuous by its absence, but good earnest preaching backed by prayer and personal work was much in evidence. We all are conscious that we have had a real revival in our midst, and we have seen the Spirit of God work as never before.

"I would like to recommend Brother Wells to any pastor that wants a real revival, desires the salvation of the lost and is not afraid of going out and getting souls for God. He is by far the best we have ever had. To God be the glory!"

Jon A. Pirtle in Glorious Revival at Chattanooga

From Henry T. Mahan, pastor of the Oakwood Baptist Church,

The Sword there are people of all ages. Our readers span human life "from the cradle to the grave." Here's what some of the oldsters think about their favorite paper.

George W. Northrip, who lives in Springfield, Missouri, says:

"I don't feel able to take the paper but don't see how I can do without it. I am 81 years old and depending on old age assistance benefits for support, but I have enjoyed this paper more than any publication that ever come into my home and I know that a way will be provided for me."

Mrs. I. W. Hopper, McDade, Texas, confides:

"At last I have decided to renew my subscription to *The Sword of the Lord*. I am crossing out something on my want list in order to do this.

"My folks think I should cut out some of my reading and give up some of my activities and be my age (75 years—6 months.) While I subscribe to a number of magazines that are fine, but I get something out of *The Sword of the Lord* that I get in no other publication. First your articles and sermons. Then the variety of subjects that are new and timely. So I am determined to 'keep on keeping on.'"

haven't, much time to read all that comes to my desk but I can truthfully say that since returning from furlough in August I have been reading it faithfully and it has been a great blessing to me. So much so that I feel led to send in the enclosed coupon with ten subscriptions.

"As a rule missionaries usually have to count their pennies, and the need for this and that constantly stares one in the face, nevertheless I believe God will be honored in this. I shall pray to that end and ask you people to do likewise. Five of the ten subscriptions are for people who are not Christians. How I long that they may read the paper and that the Spirit of God will do the work of grace in their hearts!"

Ann Munsell
Honduras, C. A.

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Chattanooga, comes this encouraging word:

"The reason for this letter, which should have been written before now, is to thank you for helping me to meet Evangelist Jon A. Pirtle. I read about Brother Pirtle in *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*, and arranged a revival meeting with him. To shorten the letter let me say, we closed the meeting last Friday night. It was a glorious meeting. The Christians of this community were wonderfully revived, they began praying, visiting, soul-winning, and testifying.

This little community was shaken for God. We had a full house every night and souls saved in every service. The Church is in the best condition spiritually that it has ever been.

"One member who has been here 49 years said that it was the best revival this Church has ever known. We praise the Lord for Jon A. Pirtle and his devotion to Christ and to His Word. Brother Pirtle is sound, sincere, and filled with the Spirit."

"I am a graduate of Tennessee Temple College, of which Dr. Lee Roberson is the president, and I have been taking some classes under Dr. Roberson in the Seminary. Dr. Roberson told the preacher boys in his classes that no preacher should be without all of John R. Rice's books.

Kenneth A. Chapman Brought Blessing in Greenville, Ill.

This note of praise came from A. C. Brown, pastor of Pleasant Mount Baptist Church, Greenville, Illinois:

"Last night closed a two weeks revival at our Church and I want to say that I thank you from the very depth of my heart for sending Brother Kenneth A. Chapman of West Plains, Missouri, our way. Surely he is a great man of God and preaches the Word with power, declaring the whole Council of God. He was a great inspiration both to me and my church. And I am just too glad to recommend him to any church as a sane, sound evangelist. You are perfectly safe in sending him anywhere, any time, to any Church great or small. He will do them good.

"I am writing this of my own free will and accord and I would not eulogize him so highly had he not have eulogized my Lord and Master. His only theme was Jesus only and only Jesus. He certainly heeded the admonition given by our Lord as when He said John 12:32, 'And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.' In forty years of my ministry I have never had an evangelist that I appreciated more. Surely he was a God-send to this community."

Evangelist Hankins Led Campaign in Lima, Ohio

A happy note of thanksgiving came from the preachers and laymen of the Everlasting Life Campaign in Lima, Ohio. James C. Welty, president of the Lima Fishers of Men group writes:

"Praise the Lord! We have just finished our fourth annual Evangelistic Campaign. It was indeed a success in the Lord. Many souls were saved, we don't have the exact figures, but they will reach over two-hundred. We thank the Lord for what He has done through His servant Dr. Hankins."

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ENROLL IN
THIS GREAT
STUDY
TODAY

Repent Ye!

(Continued from page 2)

warfare, it was a pilgrimage, it was a struggle, it was cutting off the right arm and plucking out the right eye, it was being maimed if necessary. It meant sacrifice. There was a day in our calendar called Good Friday; there was a place called Calvary. It meant coming out, being forsaken, abused, slandered, rejected, despised, hated, persecuted, a fool for Christ's sake, sneered at, laughed at, misrepresented, suffering the cross.

What does it mean now? A picnic. It is a "social," it is an entertainment, it is a guild, an ordinance; and with multitudes of people who call themselves Christians it means nothing more. We have made it too easy, but Jesus never made it so: He never deluded anybody. He never cried "Peace" where there was no peace. He knew the danger of saying "Peace" when the soul was in anarchy and the will in rebellion, and the whole man against God. He could not cry "Peace."

No, He never made it easy. We have said to anybody and everybody, "Only believe." The New Testament does not say so. The Devil believes, and believes more than you do; in his heart he knows more about it. He believes; and if he says he does not, he is a liar, he is shamming. He believes far more than any of us, but he is not a saint. Jesus has never made it easy.

There was one man who came and asked, "Are there few that be saved?" and He said, "Strive, struggle, agonize to enter in at the strait gate." He never made it easy.

Here is another man who came and said, "Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest." But Jesus knew he had not counted the cost, and said, "Foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head."

Here is another who came and said, "Lord, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus diagnosed the case instantly, and put His finger on the weak spot of his life and said, "If thou wilt be perfect, sell all thou hast and give to the poor, and come, follow me." He did not make it easy.

Here is another man who came and said, "Lord, we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him." Jesus said to him, "Ye must be born again."

And to the multitude of people who listened to Him, He said, "If any man will be my disciple, let him take up his cross and deny himself." He never made it easy; and the man who makes it easy to be a Christian preaches a mongrel gospel. Jesus said, "Repent." John preached repentance. He came to preach it. It had the first place in his sermons. It was first and last with John, "Repent, repent." You say it is too startling, sensational, vulgar; but remember, it was God's vulgarly "Repent." No man who preaches as John did will be popular.

They put John in prison for preaching repentance, and so that the doctrine should not be silent, as soon as John was shut up Jesus began where John left off, and His first public sermon to the world was on repentance. He knew where to begin. "Repent ye," said Jesus. That is His first utterance, and if you care to go to His last before He left His disciples and was received up yonder in the clouds, He gave them the commission to go and preach repentance. So that in the first and the last utterances of the Son of God you have repentance enforced. And when He was back again on the throne, when angels and archangels had received Him with the shouts of triumph and welcome which He deserved, when He had been exalted as a Prince and a Saviour to give repentance, as though He knew that some of us would shrink from driving it in, as though He knew that some of us would be afraid to push it home. He said to Saul, "Saul, you go to the Gentiles and make them—make them—do works meet for repentance."

Jesus never made it easy. Let any man who ever tried honestly but one day in his life to serve God with all his powers, let him tell me if it was an easy thing to do. It is not easy. It is a struggle, it is a fight. Jesus Christ on Calvary is not a substitute for the life He means you to live, but the means by which you get the power to live the life. No, there is no salvation without repentance. This is the first step. First things first. And the man who misses repentance will miss everything. If your repentance is shallow, your religious life will be shallow. If your coming to Christ does not mean everything, you will not get everything. If your surrender is not complete, you cannot receive. If your hands are filled, you cannot take hold. It is only those who come empty-handed that can cling. It is only those who turn from darkness to light that understand God. It is only those who leave the Devil who can receive God. No, we must repent.

"Then," you say, "what is repentance?" Listen—it is not conviction. It is possible to be convicted without repentance. Why, it is hardly possible to meet and talk with anybody in these days but at some moment of their life's history they have been convicted of their need of Christ. It is hardly possible to meet with anybody who does not know what he ought to do and what he ought to be. You cannot meet and talk with any man that has not light about these things; but light is not life.

What brings you to a mission service? Deep down in your conscience, the soul of you, the man of you, back of everything, hid away that nobody else can see, there is a real cry in your soul for God. That is conviction. That is God-given; that is Holy Ghost-brought, that is the result of the light that flashes over the cliffs of eternity, that is the soul's awakening. It is one thing to be awake, it is another thing to get up.

You have often heard your minister preach. Maybe you have been hearing him for years. Perhaps you sit in the gallery or away back in one of the pews, or near to him, and every time he preaches and you hear him, you go home and say, "My pastor is right; I ought to be a Christian, I know I ought," and you feel beneath the powerful pleadings of your own pastor, beneath the pleadings of the evangelist, you know God's claims, you admit them, you feel them. They are right, they are reasonable, and you ought to surrender. That is conviction. But it is one thing to be convicted and another thing to repent. Conviction is not repentance.

What is repentance? It is not sorrow. Sorrow for sin is one element of repentance, but you can be sorry without repentance. There is a kind of sentimental sorrow, a sorrow at the thought of coming retribution and exposure, which is mean, selfish, devilish, and is not healthy and life-giving. There is a sorrow that weeps at funerals and sentimental plays and weeps beneath the ordinary preaching and the special preaching. There are multitudes of people who think they are not far from the kingdom because their tears come easily; they whisper all sorts of sweet messages to themselves because they can weep. They tell themselves they are not hard, and therefore there must be hope for them, and all the while they are holding on to forbidden things and walking in forbidden paths, and keeping company with those who are destroying them and leading them far from God. It is no good to cover God's altar with tears while your heart is in rebellion. It is no good to hold out one hand apparently to the cross with the other holding on to a black hand behind you. You cannot hold Dagon in one hand and the Ark of the Covenant in the other. You cannot serve God

and mammon. It is no good to sing on Sunday with your face towards the cross and on Monday with your feet towards the beer shop.

I sat in a home a few days ago playing with a boy of ten. His face was bright as the sun. He looked as happy as any child in the home, calling me "Uncle." Presently his mother had missed something, and she came in and said, "Jack, have you taken so-and-so?"

His head dropped.

"Jack, have you taken so-and-so?"

No answer.

"Jack"—and she came and put her hand on his shoulder—"did you take—"

"Yes, mother," and he began to cry. Oh, he was sorry; he did look sorry; he sobbed as though his heart would break. What for? He was just as guilty five minutes before, and he knew he was. What made him sorry? Sorry that he had sinned against his mother? No. Sorry that he had sinned against God. No. Well, what was his sorrow? He was sorry because he was found out.

And there are multitudes of professing Christians whose religious sorrow is no deeper. That is the sorrow that worketh death. There is a godly sorrow, sorrow because I have sinned against God. "Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight . . . For thou desirest truth in the hidden parts, honesty where no eye but thine can see, transparency where no light but thine can penetrate." There is a sorrow that means death. There is a sorrow for sin that worketh life. Which is yours?

What is repentance? Listen. It is not promising to be better. There are plenty of people who have been promising to be better ever since they can remember, from boyhood or girlhood. When God has laid His hand upon them, as He does in a thousand ways, they are ready to promise, and do promise. Where are you, you who have been making promises till your hair is gray and broken every one of them, and angels beholding your shattered promises have shuddered to the tips of their wings? You are further from God than ever you were in your life, with all your promises. Your psalm-singing and your hymn-singing, and your church-going, and your offerings, and all the rest of your religious paraphernalia are so much mockery because you have not walked the straight and blessed path of obedience and trust.

It is not enough to promise. It means more than that. If it is not conviction, if it is not sorrow, if it is not the desire to be better and the promise to be better, what is it? What is repentance? Is it crying? No. Is it excitement? No. Is it emotion? Is it kneeling down and groaning? No. Is it going and hearing preachers? No.

What is it? Listen. Jesus Christ tells you in that beautiful picture in the fifteenth of Luke. It is a wonderful chapter. There are three cases in that chapter—the silver, the sheep, and the son. The sheep was lost out of the fold; the silver was lost in the house. The sheep was lost without any intention of being lost, but it was lost. The silver was lost in the house through somebody's carelessness; and it may be there is somebody lost in your house, in your pew in the church, through somebody's carelessness, God help you to find out who that somebody is!

The son was lost, and it was his own fault. He was a prodigal before he left home. He was a rebel

WANTED: Your Letter

(Continued from page 1)

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To help you share the blessings of Letter Month here are special incentives.

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before he got a penny of his fortune. He was as bad in heart and in mind before received a cent of the money as when he had spent it all. He was guilty the moment he said to himself, "I will demand the portion of goods that falleth to me."

When the sheep went astray, a man went after it. When the silver was lost, a woman went after it. When the son went astray, nobody went after him. How is that? Remember who told the story. Nobody went for him. How is that? Because he was a man, because he was a moral agent, because he was accountable to God for his own act. Why did not the father gather his servants with the elder brother, why did he not gather his neighbors together, and say, "Look here, I have lost my boy, let us go and find him and bring

(Continued on page 5)

Bill Rice, which will be given free with each order for \$5.00 or more. You'll like this book of evangelistic messages by the associate editor of *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*. Some of the simplicity and charm of Bill's pulpit presense has been captured in this book. It regularly sells for \$1.50 but is yours free, with order for \$5.00 or more, but you must ask for it.

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This is our third annual Letter Month and our files prove that it works. We have bound volumes of letters received last year and it is a constant source of encouragement to reread them. They tell how God has blessed, how He wants to bless again.

They tell of souls saved through *The Sword of the Lord* and our other publications. They tell of men—young and old alike—surrendering to the call of the ministry or other full-time work. They tell of backsliders restored to fellowship and rededicated for Christian service. They tell of ministers rescued from modernism. They tell of homes establishing family altars. They tell of so many triumphs of God's grace that only eternity is long enough to adequately relate them.

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The "Failures" of Jesus

(Continued from page 1)

nermost secrets of the work of the kingdom. Yet, when a testing time came, this same Judas who had sat under the ministry, who had watched the works, who had associated with the person of the Redeemer, was found unsaved, fell by the wayside and unquestionably sank into the Hell that is reserved for all those who die in unbelief.

Take the time when the Lord Jesus Christ spoke to the man whom we call the rich young ruler. What a chance was offered the young man! The Son of God Himself preached to him to begin with; the greatest opportunity ever offered a man was his. The message was plain and clear; there was no chance of misunderstanding it. Yet, the young man turned away sorrowful, for all we know to die in his sins.

Take the case of Pilate, or of Herod, before whom Jesus Christ stood on trial for His life. He was facing them out with His claim as the Redeemer. There He was, the Son of God, just as much the Son of God, the Saviour of the world then as He is today. Apparently He made absolutely no impact on the hearts and lives of His judges.

Consider the awful procession starting on its way to Calvary. When Jesus Christ sank under the weight of His cross, the milling, murderous, maniacal mob could find nothing else to say to Him

or about Him except "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

It is exactly the same way today. Think of all the efforts evangelists, pastors, teachers, missionaries put forth in order to get the unsaved to come to the services, let alone to reach them for the Lord Jesus Christ. Think of all the multiplied millions of dollars that are being spent in religious advertising. Think of all the tears that are being shed, of all the activity that is being engaged in, in order to reach a lost world with the message of salvation. I bid you to remember the fact that the Gospel, that preaching, that the church, that evangelism are not beginning in any way to keep up with the growth of the population of the world. There are more unsaved people on earth today, numerically, and perhaps by percentage, for all I know, than there have been in the last hundred years. With all our multiplication of activity, it looks as though the Lord Jesus Christ, in a great many cases, is continuing to fail.

But WHY? Why is it that the mighty Son of God seemingly is stopped in so many cases without being able to help these particular souls, much as He wants to? He teaches us that it is not His will that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. He teaches us that He doesn't want souls to be damned but desires that all might be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. Why is it, then, that so many hearing the Gospel, watching the mighty works of God, still go on in their sins to sink into a devil's Hell? The combination of texts that I read to you tonight explains the awful problem. Therefore, take an outline.

First, there are THE WORKS OF CHRIST. Second, there is THE WICKEDNESS OF UNBELIEF. Third, there is THE WARNING OF SCRIPTURE.

"And he did not many mighty

Repent Ye!

(Continued from page 4)

him back in spite of himself? Why did he not? Because if they had brought him back again he would have been a prodigal still, he would have been a rebel inside the house as well as out of it, for no man comes till he returns; and Heaven and the Bible, Christ and Calvary, the Holy Ghost and eternity stand absolutely defeated before the citadel of the human will. Do not forget it.

works there because of their unbelief."

The Works of the Lord Jesus Christ

Let us consider first THE WORKS OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. The New Testament bears witness to them. It is written of Him that He went about doing good, such good, such wonderful good, such extraordinary good, good that no one else had ever been able to do, at least not to the same extent. Think of the honey sweet words of counsel, of comfort, of conviction, of courage that fell from His lips! Think of the mighty miracles of His healing! Think of His unstopping the mouths of the dumb, opening the eyes of the blind, the ears of the deaf! Think of Him stopping and, as someone has said, breaking up every funeral He attended! Surely the people of His day and time should have fallen at His feet, if for no other reason than because of His works, and cried out, as one did say, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Think further of the testimony, not only of the New Testament but of history, of secular history, non-religious history. Listen! I come from a city in Russia named Moghilev. It is on the Dnieper River. At the time I lived there, it had a population of between 150,000 to 200,000. That was just before 1914. The entire city of more than 150,000 people had one small hospital, one drug store,

(Continued on page 6)

Listen. The prodigal went astray, took every step from the homestead of his own deliberate choice, step by step away up into the far country, and he had to come to himself, he had to come back every inch of the way, and he did not send a letter home to his father and say, "If you will send the old chariot, I will come home," and he did not ask anybody to give him a lift. He had to walk back every inch his own self, step by step, with bleeding feet and aching head, and broken heart. He had to do it.

"But," you say, "the father ran to meet him, did he not?" Yes, he did, and He will run to meet you when He sees you coming, but you must come. Coming is repentance. It is the response of the will. Repentance is the response of the enlightened, redeemed man to the call of God, the "I will" of the soul. It is putting your hand on your heart and getting hold of what has been your curse, the thing that has chained you. It is getting hold of the thing that has made Hell of earth for you, the sin of your heart—for I have discovered that there may be a dozen sins in a man's life, but there are not a dozen that predominate; there is one overmastering sin that enslaves and damns, and if that sin goes everything goes. It is putting your hand in your heart and plucking that out by the hair of its head and saying to God, "That it is, and I will die before I will sin again."

Have you repented in that fashion? Don't talk about church membership, don't insult God by talking about the Communion until you have done this: this is the first thing and the others will not be expected until you have done this.

"Repent ye," make a full surrender to God.

Brother, listen to me once more. Repentance, when it is done, is such a beautiful thing that Jesus Himself said, "There is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth." Have you repented along that line? There are some of you who do not understand how it is you have no peace and no joy in your profession. I know, just as well as if I lived with you, I know if you have no joy and no peace in your professed faith it is

because you have never turned to God wholly. Some of you say, "I want peace." Never mind peace; do as you are told and peace will come. There are some people more concerned about nice feelings, happy feelings, ecstasies and joys, and all the rest of it, than they are about putting God in His place. You put God in His place, and you will have peace; you honor God, and you will have peace.

A dear fellow came to me when I was in South Africa, and he said, "Sir, I want to get relief from a guilty conscience," and he had an awful story to tell, a story that made me shudder. He unfolded a page in his history that I dare not tell you. Then he said, "Sir, I want God's pardon."

I said, "My brother, how do you expect to get it?"

He said, "By an honest attempt to undo the past."

"Then," I said, "turn your face that way and wait for peace."

"But," he said, "that will mean prison, and it may mean a lifetime in prison."

I said, "Turn your face that way. It is no good to talk about peace while there is wrong to be righted, while there are stripes that need to be washed; it is no use to talk about peace till you get right with God. The kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace."

Righteousness, that means rightness, wholeness, harmony—and then the music. There will be no music till the instrument is put in tune. You know where you have to yield; you know the point of controversy between you and God; you know the thing that has hindered you, you know the thing that robbed you, you know the thing that has darkened your sky, you know the thing that has come in between you and God, you know the thing about which you have persisted in having your own way and not God's. When you yield on that thing, you will repent.

Will you do it now? "But," you say, "I am a church member." Never mind. You say there is some one near that knows you. Never mind. You say people expect better things of you. Never mind. Be honest. Put God in His right place. Turn from sin to God, from darkness to light—and you can do the turning. The Spirit enlightens, the Spirit breeds tenderness, the Spirit coaxes, woos, tries to win. God the Holy Ghost is doing His work in your heart, but, brother, you must submit. When you submit wholly, that is repentance. God help you to do it!

(From AS JESUS PASSED BY AND OTHER ADDRESSES by Gipsy Smith. Published by Fleming H. Revell Company.)

Praise In Our Atomic Age

By Robert L. Hudson

"There is no greater heritage; there is no more noble field of consecration... there is no more urgent need." So writes a personal friend, of high repute in the educational and music field, as he summarizes the need for better trained church musicians. While we cannot agree with him that this is the greatest heritage, the most noble field of consecration, and that there is no more urgent need, we do heartily agree that the need for better trained church music leaders is truly great and the calling a noble one.

In a world that is sin-sick and weary, "dead in trespasses and sins," a world that is seemingly engaged in a frenzied preparation for a third holocaust of conflict and strife, the need is not for more church music leaders and musicians. The great need is for more God-called, Spirit-filled, and God-anointed musicians to serve in our churches, as teachers in our Bible schools, colleges and seminaries, and to serve in the evangelistic field and all forms of Christian endeavor. For this CENTRAL CONSERVATORY OF CHICAGO, a Christian Music College,

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The "Failures" of Jesus

(Continued from page 5)

two doctors, one assistant doctor. There were four schools—two grade schools one high school, one junior college. In all the four schools there were not a thousand, certainly not fifteen hundred students. In all the four schools there were not one hundred girls. The majority of the students were boys. Girls were not supposed to get an education.

What was the difference between Russia and the Chicago to which I came? What is the difference between Moghilev and any city of the United States? People have two feet in Russia, two hands, two eyes, two ears, one nose. They take baths. They sleep. They are married and given in marriage. When you prick them, they bleed. When you poison them, they die. When you hurt them, they weep. What is the difference between Russia and America? I shall tell you. In America the Lord Jesus Christ has been given a chance. In Russia He had not up to that time, and of course He is not being given a chance now. May I digress here for a minute and remind you of the marvelous opportunity that the Lord has opened for me of preaching the Gospel to Russia over the Luxembourg radio station. Even now, every Thursday night, for as long as the funds hold out, your servant is telling the story of Christ and Him crucified behind the Iron Curtain by transcription.

I read after a Mohammedan preacher, a follower of Mohammed, who had become a Christian. He said that in his country, in Turkey, if he had a choice between being a woman or a donkey, he would be a donkey, because his master would take better care of him than any husband took care of his wife.

You dear sisters who are reading this, why are you not in some purdah of the Arabians, of the Turks, of the Hindus? Why are you not circumscribed in your activities? Why can you associate with others, going here, there, and yonder, just as openly as the men? Why do you not wear the veil? What is the difference? Is a Mohammedan woman ugly? Not at all. Is she indecent? Not at all. Do they have something so terribly wrong with them, something not found in American women? Of course not. It is simply because you American women have your lives built in the foundation of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Listen, my friends. When the Angles and the Saxons were eating each other in the forests of Germany, in cannibalistic orgies, the Chinese were already writing, printing, dressing in silks and satins. Compare England with China today. China, backward, poor China, benighted China, forlorn China! England, a paragon among the nations! What made England? Was it its Shakespeares? Perish the thought! Was it its Miltons? Forget it! What made England? Was it its factories? WHAT made England? Was it its dances, its armies, its navies? NO! Definitely, truly, wholly, entirely, it is the Christ of the living God! The Gospel was preached in that country while poor China did not have the same chance at it.

May I again digress? For as long as the world stands, England and America, especially America, will never cease paying for the fact that we had the opportunity at China and missed it. China will be a sword at our hearts, a dagger at our throats because of its being taken over by the communists instead of by the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is identically the same way

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everywhere you turn. No one who has ever read that matchless story of Queen Victoria can ever forget it. One of her Zulu king subjects came from his kraal yonder in Africa, with his mighty retinue, to visit her. Taking him into her carriage, as one of her great subjects, she rode him around the city of London to show him the sights of that mighty metropolis. Returning to her palace, she sat down on her throne. The giant Zulu, the black warrior, stood in front of her, leaning on his terrible spear as he spoke:

"White Mother, I shall never dare tell my people what you have showed me this day. They will not believe me! They would kill me for a liar,—but, I want to ask you a question that has been bothering me all this day. My people are bigger than your people. My people are as numerous as your people. My people are as strong as your people. I can take any two of your soldiers and break them with these two hands. There is not a man in your kingdom that I have seen that would be a physical match for one of my warriors. Why is it that you are so great and we are so small?"

You recall the answer, God bless the memory of that saintly queen! Stepping down from the throne, taking her Bible from a table by the side of the dais, lifting it before the king, she said:

"King, this is the secret of the greatness of my empire!"

Oh, how I wish someone would tell that to the President of the United States, to the Cabinet in Washington! They all need to know that. They seem to have forgotten this lesson, this testimony of history.

There is a third testimony to the works of Christ, even that of experience, the experience of salvation that so many all about you are enjoying, the experiences of salvation that have brought about such wonderful changes in the lives of folks round about us, changes that you and I have witnessed. Listen to me. I know a man who was arrested for pickpocketing and burglary and was thrown into the Ohio Penitentiary. There came into his cell a colored man, a Negro who was a Christian. I do not know what he was doing in jail. Perhaps he landed there through some false witness. Perhaps he had gotten into some trouble. Christians, unfortunately, get into trouble only too often. This black man did not forget his religion. He did not forget his Christ. He did not forget his testimony. He witnessed to the pickpocket and burglar. The Lord Jesus Christ reached out His mighty hand and with His own blood washed away the sins of this miscreant. Today this former pickpocket, this former burglar, is winning multitudes to the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I was in school, I drove my car from the seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, to my little church in Geronimo, Oklahoma, one hundred ninety miles away. Sitting by my side in my small automobile was a young man from Brooksville, Mississippi. He told me the story of his conversion. He had

attended college in Clinton, Mississippi. He began to run around with the wrong crowd and started to drink, to gamble. He was kicked out of school and went back home. His people ran a chain of stores, some of which I have seen. Sin got such a hold of him that his people would have nothing to do with him. He obtained a job as a travelling salesman. He went from bad to worse.

One night in Vicksburg, Mississippi, after a terrible drinking bout and a spell of delirium tremens, he decided to commit suicide. Leaving his home, he made his way to the Vicksburg Bridge and stood there looking down into the swirling, black, muddy waters of the Mississippi River. It was about seven-thirty or eight o'clock in the evening. He decided to smoke one last cigarette. Taking a cigarette from his package, he tremblingly put it in his mouth. He then started hunting for a match but apparently could not find one. About that time, as he was almost ready to throw away the cigarette, a man came toward him on the bridge. Stopping the stranger, the young man asked:

"Mister, have you got a match? I want to light my cigarette."

"I sure have." Reaching into his pocket, the stranger pulled out an old-fashioned box of matches and gave it to the young fellow. Because his hands trembled, he could not successfully light a match.

"Let me light it for you." Lighting a match, the stranger held it to the young man's cigarette. He noticed the pastiness, the swollen condition of the smoker's face. He saw the trembling hand shakingly holding the cigarette.

"Bud, you're in trouble, aren't you? You are sick, aren't you?"

"No, I'm all right. I'm all right."

"Well, Bud, anyway let's go get a cup of coffee. I was just starting out for one and I don't like sitting alone in a restaurant. Come along with me."

"Oh, let me alone, Mister. I'm all right."

"Come on, Bud." The stranger put his strong arm through the arm of the young fellow and the two walked downtown into Vicksburg. They entered a small restaurant and ordered sandwiches and coffee. Later, as they walked out of the restaurant, the young suicide subject said:

"Well, I guess I had better be going."

"Where are you going?"

"Oh,—just nowhere. Back to the hotel, I guess."

"How about coming with me?"

"Where are you going?"

"Come along and you'll see."

"Well, I might as well go with you as with anybody else."

They walked farther down into town to a church where a revival meeting was in progress. They sat on a back seat of the auditorium and somehow the young drink addict managed to stay awake throughout the service. They parted after the service, the

young man going to his hotel. The next day, after straightening out some affairs, he left for home.

When Sunday morning came, without saying a word to his people, he accompanied them to church. The pastor preached an extraordinarily good sermon that Sunday morning. When the invitation was given, the young man responded, offering himself to the Lord Jesus Christ and as a candidate for baptism. Still he said nothing to his people and they said nothing to him beyond congratulating him on his stand for Christ. They were wary, watchful, not knowing what was going to happen.

The next Sunday morning, when the invitation was given, the young man again came down the aisle. When the preacher questioned him as to his reason for coming forward, he said he felt that the Lord wanted him to be a preacher of the Gospel. Of course the family was overjoyed. The church was overjoyed. They licensed him to preach the Gospel. In a few short weeks the young man went to the Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

A few years went by. He had only one year of school left when one day as he sat reading a book in the lobby of the Texas Hotel the largest hotel in Fort Worth there came a tap on his shoulder.

"Charlie, I haven't seen you in a long while. Are you still in the same business?"

"Yes."

"Still travelling?"

"Yes."

"Still selling?"

"Yes."

"Big business?"

"Yes."

"Having a good time?"

"Yes."

"Before we talk any more, let's go upstairs and have a drink."

Charlie accompanied the man to his room. Opening his valise, the other man took out a bottle of Scotch, brought out two glasses, one for himself and one for Charlie, poured in a certain amount of water, and then filled the glasses with the strong whiskey.

"Charlie, here is mud in your eye. Bottoms up!"

"Before we drink," said Charlie, "I want to tell you what business I am in."

Right there in the hotel room, with the glasses of whiskey in their hands, Charlie told the other man about the Lord Jesus Christ.

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The "Failures" of Jesus

(Continued from page 6)

name is Hyman Appelman. You do not have to go any further than Hyman Appelman to know the works of the gracious Christ of God. I weigh a bit over two hundred pounds. I am just a two hundred pound exclamation point that Jesus Christ is the mighty Worker of miracles of grace.

The Wickedness, the Wilfulness of Unbelief

We hasten on. What about THE WICKEDNESS, THE WILFULNESS OF UNBELIEF?

"And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief."

You say, "Preacher, you have chosen a strange doctrine, 'The Failures of Jesus.'"

No, it is not strange, beloved. As long as you and I, Christian and unsaved, continue in unbelief without God, without Christ, just so long is Jesus failing as far as we are concerned. Then what about this wickedness, this wilfulness of unbelief? First of all, my friends, it is sin against light. Here is the Bible, the Word of God, the revelation of God. Its promises, its proclamations, its proffers, its truths, its revelations are so clear that a child is able to understand them; so simple that you do not need a college or seminary education to comprehend them. This wickedness, this unbelief is sin against light.

It is sin against love. God wrote this Bible for love of us. God sent

His Son to the cross to die for love of us. There was no merit in any of us. He could have gotten along without us just as easily, perhaps, as with us. The whole plan of salvation is based on the fact that God loved us and does love us. He gave for us all He was and all He had. For our sins, on that bitter, cruel cross, He tore His heart loose from its moorings. If you continue in unbelief—if you continue in hesitating unbelief, if you are a Christian and your life is limited because it is not surrendered, because you are afraid to trust Christ; if you are a sinner and have not come to the Fountain of Life, you are wicked because you are sinning against love. Love is to be trusted or it isn't love.

If I were to ask you to place your hand on a Bible and swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and then if I were to ask you, "Do you love God?", you would say, "Yes." If I were to ask you, "Do you believe that God loves you?", you would say, "Yes." Yet many of you, the majority of you, I fear, are living as though you did not love God, as though you did not believe that God loves you. You know that that is so. You do not trust Him with your money. You do not trust Him with your time. You do not trust Him with your talents. You do not trust Him with your church membership. You have all sorts of alibis and

excuses standing between you and a surrendered life.

Unbelief is sin, not only against light, not only against love, but against life, against the life of the Son of God and against your own life. What am I talking about? Simply this. All around you are men and women who have dared God, who have stepped out on His promises, who are doing exploits for God. Oh, the memories that come flocking to our minds of folks whom we know who are doing just that. We know that God can do for us, in us, through us, just exactly what He has done for these others; yet we hesitate, we hold back.

I was in a hotel room in the Cactus Hotel, San Angelo, Texas, with one of our great denominational leaders, at that time my superior when I was a state evangelist under the Texas Baptist Convention. He went the limit complimenting me on my humble work, on the successes that God had given me. He finished by saying:

"Hyman, you cannot expect to have as great meetings as Moody had, as great meetings as Charles Finney had, as some of the rest of them had."

"Why not?"

"There are too many magazines, too many radios, too many books, too many banquets, too many attractions, too many distractions, too many detractors."

That got me. I began to cry and could not stop. The tears came hot and fast. Finally I quieted down and apologized for my show of emotion.

"Why are you crying? What did I say that made you cry?"

"Doctor, if I thought that the moving picture shows, that the radios, that the magazines, that

the attractions and the distractions, the subtractions and the detractors could stop God, you could have Him. I could not want that kind of a God. I could not want a God that could be stopped by the alibis of this day and time."

Do you know what made Billy Sunday great? God! It was not the fact that he was raised out yonder in Iowa somewhere, part of the time in an orphanage. It was not the fact that God gave him a great woman for a wife. It was not that he had such extraordinary ability, such personality, such education. No! God had more of Billy Sunday than He has of Hyman Appelman, than He has of you, perhaps. Pray for me and I shall pray for you.

We are definitely sinning against life when we continue in unbelief. We Christians are doing just that. You who are unsaved are sinning against life, visible, evident, definite life. God has given you the warnings, the promises, the appeals in His Holy Word. God has given you the illustrations and demonstrations of people all around you. You are sinning flatly against life that cannot be denied.

The Warning of Scripture

Let us consider now the last point, THE WARNING OF SCRIPTURE.

"And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief."

Listen! Write this down. It is so true that it ought to be in the Bible. The great author, Robert Louis Stevenson, made this statement:

"The Bible says it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God, but I know something worse than that, and that is to

fall out of the hands of the living God."

When God lets you go, turns His back on you, you are through. You are finished. Christian, your power will be stripped from you, your position will be taken from you, your personality will be cast on a dung heap. Unserved friend, if God were to let you go today, not all the preaching, not all the pleading, not all the sacrificing in the world would do you a bit of good. I go on to say, then, that unbelief rejects the Saviour.

You say, "Preacher, that does not apply to saved people, to Christians." Oh, it doesn't! That is your opinion. What are you doing when Jesus asks you to do something and you refuse His behest because of your unbelief? Are you not rejecting Christ as your Lord and Master, even though as a Christian you may not be rejecting Him as your Saviour? Did not the Lord Jesus Christ say, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46).

Unbelief rejects the Saviour. Unbelief crucifies Christ afresh. Unbelief denies Him before men. Unbelief delivers a testimony against Him. We all agree that unbelief is the seed that rejects the Saviour in the heart of the unsaved.

Unbelief ruins the soul. It ruins the soul here and it ruins the soul in the hereafter. It ruins the souls here in the sense that God has no place in your life, that your loved ones, your friends, your business associates, your school-mates, all with whom you gather and forgather, are penalized by the fact that you are not a child of God. If you are a child of God and continue in unbelieving refusal to surrender to the whole will of God, people round about you, brother Christian, sister Christian, are led by Satan to say, "There is nothing to it. It is a testimony without any truth. It is a tree without any fruit. There is nothing to it."

Oh! One backslidden, indifferent, unconcerned, disobedient child of God can do more harm than a thousand unsaved people. The unsaved people are not Christians and folks know it. They do not expect Christian works out of them. Those who are the children of God, consciously or unconsciously, have an area of influence which they affect with every breath that they draw, with every move that they make. Again, my friends, I warn you, unbelief rejects the Saviour, ruins the soul.

Unbelief wrecks your service. It is written that whatsoever is not of faith is sin, that without faith it is impossible to please God.

Many of you remember the story of Moody and his son-in-law. Moody was in England while his son-in-law was in America. There came an offer to his son-in-law to go out in great evangelistic meetings, in great revivals, in great campaigns. His faith failed him. He was in unbelief when he wired to Moody, "What shall I do? I am afraid. I do not have faith enough."

Back came the wire from Moody, "Go out on my faith."

What an answer! How it drove me to my knees! But I know a better faith than Moody's, and that is the faith of the Son of God, the faith that Paul the apostle speaks about in Galatians 2:20:

"I am crucified with Christ! nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

It is written of Him, "If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself" (II Continued on page 8)

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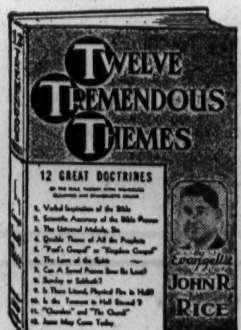
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I am just in from some very strenuous evangelistic work in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Asbury Park, New Jersey. I am glad that my son, Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., the president of our University, seems to be in good physical condition again. I appreciate his writing two special appeals for me while I was away.

The secretary who is taking this has just called my attention to a letter from one of our graduates in the state of Ohio. This young woman is teaching school in that state. She is a very fine Christian girl. She made a splendid record when she was a student in our school. She referred to her senior year when she was not going to be able to stay because of finances and we were able to help her with a loan. This young lady has paid her debt to the school and has sent a generous contribution so that we can help some other student as we helped her.

I have always tried to be frank with the Christian people with whom I have had to deal, and I am going to be frank with you about the way you have responded to our appeals recently. Maybe the story is getting to be an old story. It is possible that we say the same thing over and over again, but I am honest with you when I tell you that I do not believe in my whole life I have ever been able to offer Christian people an opportunity to invest money that will pay greater dividends for time and for eternity than we are offering you when we ask you to invest in this Student Loan Endowment Fund. We have nine weeks from the date I am dictating this before our annual Board meeting. I would like to tell our Board of Trustees that you Christian people have sent in for this Student Loan Endowment Fund a minimum of \$250,000. You will have to do well if we reach that goal. We have been hoping that we might get \$300,000 in cash or pledges before June 1. I have just thought that maybe some of you have been paying your income tax and that may have taken what cash you had, but now that is out of the way, I am asking all of you Christian friends who believe in the wonderful work that God is helping us to do in Bob Jones University to make a contribution of some amount between now and June 1. Will you do it? I know some of you

can make a generous contribution, but I know that many of you cannot invest large amounts. But remember that little is big when God is in it. I am sure that everyone who reads this can make some contribution. Remember, we are not asking you to help us personally. We are asking you to help us help young people get Christian training in Bob Jones University, an institution that stands without apology for the "old-time religion" and the absolute authority of the Bible. Remember, Bob Jones University is not just orthodox. It is orthodox plus. It is evangelistic.

I wonder if you grasp the real significance of three thousand students from all the states and from twenty-five foreign countries. Do you realize that one thousand of these are young men preparing for the ministry? All of these young preachers will go out with a passion for lost souls. They will not just be orthodox preachers. They will be orthodox preachers who are soul winners.

I read a day or two ago where one of the leading religious denominations of America has 748 missionaries on foreign fields. The one who wrote this report seemed to be very proud that the mission board could report 748 missionaries. Then I said to myself: Here is Bob Jones University, just one school with no conference and no convention back of it, a school that receives its support from Christian friends individually (from people like you who read this appeal); and this school has 600 young men and young women who are preparing to be foreign missionaries. That is just 148 less than all the missionaries on the foreign fields that are now being supported by one of the leading religious denominations in America. It is hard for even us who are here to realize what God is doing on Bob Jones University campus. We could not do this work without your prayers and without your financial assistance. So please invest some amount in the Student Loan Endowment Fund between now and June 1. We are going to expect to hear from you, and I feel sure you will not disappoint us. Thank you and may God bless every one of you.

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"What Does The Bible Say About Mercy Death?"

(Continued from page 2)

issue of blood for twelve years suffered agony. Had they had euthanasia then, she perhaps would have given up years before; but Jesus came and the Great Physician healed her.

God can heal now just as He did then! Euthanasia denies the power of God and the plain teaching of Scripture which says, "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him" (James 5:14, 15).

Mercy Death Could Become A Horrible Racket

The sinful heart of man is deceitful and no one can dream what will come forth from it next. "Mercy death" would soon be "broadened" to include old people, the insane, crippled children, the blind and other "untreatable diseases."

Does this sound impossible? Listen to a voice for euthanasia. Dr. Earnest A. Hooten, anthropologist of Harvard University, who is a professed unbeliever, said, "If 'thou shalt not kill' is a 'law of God'... let us have done with such a savage and subhuman deity and substitute a god of mercy and loving kindness."

Dr. Hooten further said, "... if human life is ever to be held sacred, it should be ONLY WHEN THAT LIFE IS OF VALUE TO ITS POSSESSOR AND TO SOCIETY."

Dr. Hooten first wants to scrap God, then he advocates "mercy death" by saying that when a person's life is "no longer valuable to himself or society," he ought to be killed painlessly.

This idea isn't modern. In Africa, for years savages have killed the old people when they were "no longer valuable to society." They don't build institutions for the insane, they just put them out of the way. Savages have done this for years. Russia has done the same for years in her concentration camps. The Eskimos leave the old folks out on a barren snow-covered plain to starve or freeze to death. During World War II, the little diabolical, mustached paperhanger of Germany had the same idea in his concentration camps.

Savages around the world already practice various forms of "mercy death." "Mercy killing" isn't modern. It is the law of the jungle and of the savage and of dictators for centuries.

Outstanding Physicians Against Euthanasia

Dr. George F. Lull, manager of the powerful American Medical Association representing 144,000 doctors and speaking for them, said recently in the *St. Louis Star-Times*:

"We have no sympathy with that (euthanasia) movement. The average doctor believes it is amoral. There are times when death seems inevitable, but we, as doctors, can only hope for a quiet, painless death. We cannot hasten it. That right is given only to God."

Dr. Lull in the same article pointed out that all euthanasia is a violation of medical ethics as set forth in the Oath of Hippocrates, written in 400 B. C., which is still the basic outline of what a doctor should and should not do. The oath of Hippocrates contains this revealing passage: "To please no one will I prescribe a deadly drug or give advice which

The "Failures" of Jesus

(Continued from page 7)

Tim. 2:13). There is no reason for unbelief. My friends, it is insensitive, it is ignorant, it is indolent, and worst of all, it is iniquitous.

may cause his death."

The *St. Louis Star-Times* article which quoted Dr. Lull, also quoted two other outstanding physicians on "mercy death." Dr. Max Thorek, noted surgeon and founder of the International College of Surgeons, declared:

"There are enough drugs on hand to stupify the senses where a patient is in terrible pain. I believe he should be made comfortable, but I am opposed of taking his life. What seems a hopeless case today may be cured tomorrow."

The last physician quoted from the same article in this prominent newspaper was Dr. Harry Hoffman, a psychiatrist heading the mental hygiene division of the Chicago Public Health Department, who said:

"I have often been appealed to by patients and families to end the suffering of a patient suffering an incurable disease. But the doctor is dedicated to healing his patient and prolonging life."

Euthanasia Would Discourage New Medical Progress

What would be the effect of euthanasia on the physicians? The doctors of our land would acquire the unsocial air of the hangman's-trade. The doctors themselves would be changed by the many mercy deaths they would be performing.

Medical progress, new remedies and research have come about because medicine is dedicated to curing, not killing. There are diseases that are curable today that were not twenty-five years ago. Incentive for research would die if people were put to death when they had a "disease considered incurable." If we had "mercy death" it would be easier to kill than to look for a remedy.

"Mercy death" could easily be turned into a monster racket. If girls today who becomes pregnant out of wedlock can find a doctor to perform an abortion, with "mercy death" in practice you could find a few doctors to accept money to do it illegally, too. In a few years a "murder incorporated" in "mercy deaths" would be running full swing. Murder to collect insurance, or for an estate, a farm, or property would be called "mercy death" if the proper "fee" were given.

The Bible, Christian leaders who believe the Bible, leading medical men and even society in general as shown in the laws of the nation are all against "mercy death." If some liberal, infidel preacher advocates "mercy death," just remember it is condemned by the Bible as the sin of murder. Some of these same preachers advocating "mercy death" were pacifists in the last war. They didn't want us to prepare for defense or fight wickedness. They were against the Bible then and they are against it now. They never seem to be on the right side.

When the time comes to die—God's time—the important thing is not "when" you die physically but "how" you die spiritually. The main question is, are you ready? The only way to be ready is to repent of your sins and receive Christ into your heart by faith. Receive Him NOW, "... now is the accepted time: behold, now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2).

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Listen, and I am finished. Some time ago in one of the back state mining towns in Colorado, there came an infidel lecturer to town. Calling the people together in the only hall, the civic hall, he lectured to them five nights on atheism, on infidelity. He brought to bear upon them all the devilish, all the Satanic, all the hellish arguments that are at the beck and call of these lecturers. He tore the Bible, as he thought,

to shreds. He denied God, denied Christ, mocked the church, ridiculed preachers, laughed at Christians. On the last night, having finished, he stood before the crowd and cried out:

"I have knocked off your shackles. I have knocked off your fetters. You are free. There is no God. Go ahead and do as you please. Christianity is a myth."

When he finished shouting about the myth, there stood up in that congregation a heavy-handed, heavy-faced mining man. He said:

"Mister, will you let me say a word?"

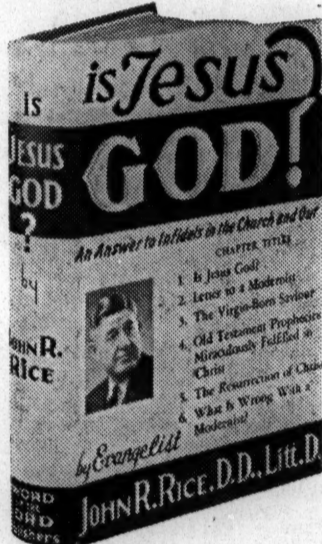
"All right, brother, fire away!" "Mister, I haven't got your education. I can't use your language. I don't know some of the words you used, but I have heard you every night and you sure are a good talker. I want to tell you something. Five years ago I was a drunkard, a gambler, and worse than that. I beat my wife. I abused my children. I couldn't hold a job for a month straight. Nobody had any confidence in me. There came to this town a young-

ish fellow. He made mistakes in his grammar. He wasn't nearly as handsome as you are. He stood up there on the platform and he told us, told me about Jesus. I accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour. I am saved. I have a good job. My wife and children are well dressed. I have the respect of this town. Brother, what you mean by that word "myth" I do not know, but I am going to take my chance with Jesus."

So am I! Do you know what I found out? It isn't a chance. It is a certainty, thank God! It isn't a chance here and it certainly will not be a chance hereafter. Friends, turn back on unbelief. If God is calling you to some special task, if God is imposing upon you some special duty, dismiss unbelief and go out to do exploits for God. If you are unsaved, unbelief will drag you down to Hell. The slightest faith that you have in God, the faith that will bring you to Christ, is enough to block Hell and open Heaven forever. God give you the grace today to step out of unbelief into full belief, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

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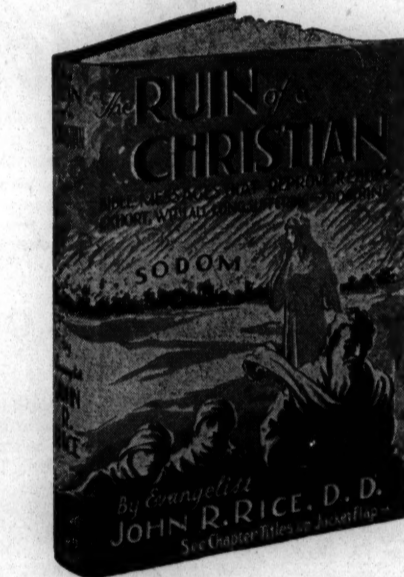
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